

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 29 December 25, 67

SUBJECT Explosion in the VEB Explosive Plant, Gnaschwitz,  
Saxony

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PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

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1. On 22 August 1952, [redacted] in the mixing department of Explosive Plant II in Gnasschwitz [redacted] near Henkirsch/ [redacted]. Most of the explosive plant is said to have been destroyed by this explosion.
2. The explosion in Explosive Plant II occurred in the forenoon of 22 August 1952 and completely destroyed the mixing department. Two persons were killed and four others were injured. Nitroglycerin was allegedly mixed with sawdust in the mixing department. Work was done in three shifts. In the summer of 1952, all employees who were not members of the SED were dismissed. \*

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\* ☐ Comment. Explosive plant I at 25 Meerstrasse in Schoenebeck/Elbe is the only other explosives plant in East Germany. Because of the importance of both of these plants, they are under the direct control of the Main Administration for Chemical Products of the State Secretariat for Chemical Products, Stones and Earth.

CLASSIFICATION

**SECRET**

[illegible]